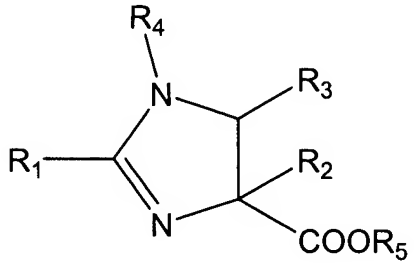
STATUS OF THE CLAIMS

1-23. (canceled).

24. (currently amended) A method for treating~~inhibiting~~ inflammation in a mammal which comprises administering an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are selected from the group consisting of aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to the mammal in an amount sufficient to inhibit the inflammation.

25. (original) The method of claim 24 wherein the mammal is human.

26. (original) The method of claim 24 wherein the mammal is a lower mammal.

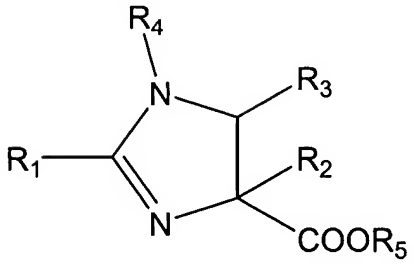
27. (original) The method of any one of claims 24, 23 or 24 wherein the administration is orally to the mammal.

28. (original) The method of any one of claims 24, 25 or 26 wherein the administration is topically to the mammal.

29. (original) The method of any one of claims 24, 25 or 26 wherein the administration is by injection into the mammal.

30. (original) The method of any one of claims 24, 25 or 26 wherein the administration is intravenous into the mammal.

31. (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting a microorganism which comprises: administering an effective amount of an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are selected from the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to inhibit the microorganism.

32. (withdrawn) The method of claim 31 wherein the inhibition is in vitro.

33. (withdrawn) The method of claim 31 wherein the inflammation is in vivo.

34. (withdrawn) The method of claim 31 wherein the administration is to a mammal.

35. (withdrawn) The method of claim 34 wherein the mammal is human.

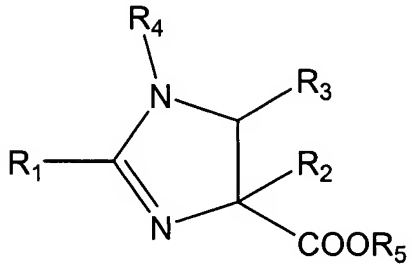
36. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 31, 32 or 33 wherein the administration is orally to a mammal.

37. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 31, 32 or 33 wherein the administration is by injection into a mammal.

38. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 31, 32 or 33 wherein the administration is intravenously into a mammal.

39. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 31, 32 or 33 wherein the administration is topically to a mammal.

40. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting degradation of a protein which is NF-kB or NF-kB kinase which comprises contacting the protein with a imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are selected from the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted.

41. (withdrawn) The method of claim 40 wherein the inhibition is in vivo.

42. (withdrawn) The method of claim 40 wherein the inhibition is in the treatment of cancer.

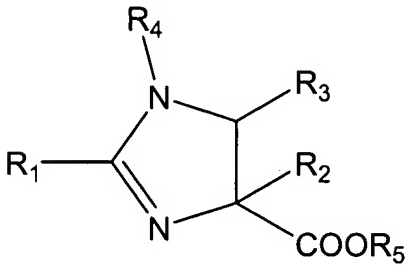
43. A method for inhibiting inflammation in a mammal which comprises administering a multi-substituted 4-acid or 4-alkyl ester imidazoline to the mammal in an amount sufficient to inhibit the inflammation.

44. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting degradation of a protein which is NF-kB or NF-kB kinase which comprises contacting the protein with a multi-substituted imidazoline ester in an amount sufficient to inhibit degradation of the protein.

45. (withdrawn) A method of inhibiting a cancer which comprises contacting the cancer with a multi-substituted imidazoline ester in an amount sufficient to inhibit the

cancer.

46. (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting a tumor or cancer in a mammal which comprises administering an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are selected from the group consisting of aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to the mammal in an amount sufficient to inhibit the tumor or cancer.

47. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the mammal is human.

48. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the mammal is a lower mammal.

49. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 46, 47 or 48 wherein the administration is orally to the mammal.

50. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 46, 47 or 48 wherein the administration is topically to the mammal.

51. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 46, 47 or 48 wherein the administration is by injection into the mammal.

52. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 46, 47 or 48 wherein the administration is intravenous into the mammal.

53. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the imidazoline is admixed with a

drug which inhibits growth of the tumor or cancer.

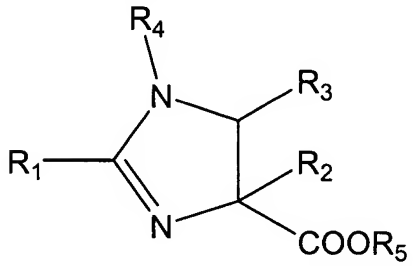
54. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the drug is a platinate.

55. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the drug is camptothecin.

56. (withdrawn) The method of any one of claims 46, 47 or 48.

57-61. (canceled).

61. (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting an immune response to a foreign NF-kB activator introduced into a mammal which comprises: administering an effective amount of an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each individually selected from -the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and, R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to the mammal so as to thereby inhibit the immune response to the foreign NF-kB activator.

62. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R1 is phenyl.

63. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R4 is benzyl.

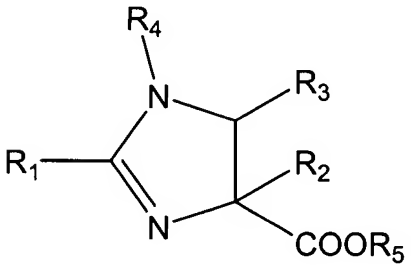
64. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R5 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

65. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R5 is ethyl.

66. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R2 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

67. (withdrawn) The method of claim 61 wherein R2 is methyl and R3 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and substituted phenyl.

68. (withdrawn) A method for treating an autoimmune disease in a mammal without bringing on complete immunodeficiency in the mammal which comprises: administering an effective amount of an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each individually selected from -the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and, R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to the mammal so as to treat the autoimmune disease.

69. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R1 is phenyl.

70. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R4 is benzyl.

71. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R5 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

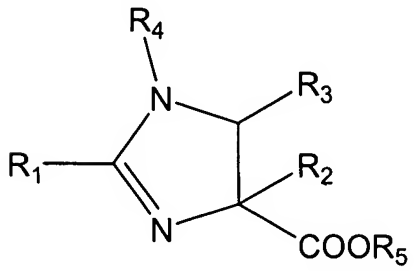
72. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R5 is ethyl.

73. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R2 is lower alkyl containing 1 to

4 carbon atoms.

74. (withdrawn) The method of claim 68 wherein R2 is methyl and R3 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and substituted phenyl.

75. (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting rejection of an organ transplanted into a mammal which comprises: administering an effective amount of an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each individually selected from the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and, R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to the mammal so as to inhibit rejection of the organ transplanted into the mammal.

76. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R1 is phenyl.

77. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R4 is benzyl.

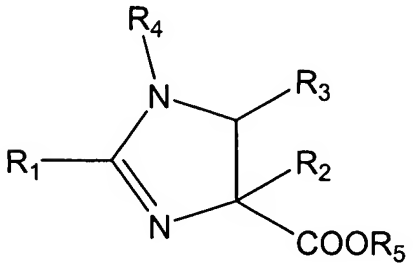
78. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R5 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

79. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R5 is ethyl.

80. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R2 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

81. (withdrawn) The method of claim 75 wherein R2 is methyl and R3 is-selected from the group consisting of phenyl and substituted phenyl.

82. (withdrawn) A method for inhibiting reactivation of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) in cells latently infected with the HIV which comprises: administering an effective amount of an imidazoline ester of the formula:



wherein R1, R2, R3 and R4 are each individually selected from -the group consisting of alkyl, acyl, aryl, arylalkyl, heteroaryl containing 5 to 14 ring members, and heterocyclic containing 5 to 12 ring members; and, R5 is a group which provides the ester, all of which are optionally substituted, to inhibit the reactivation of the HIV in the latently infected cells.

83. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R1 is phenyl.

84. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R4 is benzyl.

85. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R5 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

86. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R5 is ethyl.

87. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R2 is lower alkyl containing 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

88. (withdrawn) The method of claim 82 wherein R2 is methyl and R3 is selected from the group consisting of phenyl and substituted phenyl.

89. (withdrawn) The method of claim 46 wherein the drug is a toposiomerase II inhibitor.

90. (withdrawn) The method of claim 89 wherein the drug is daunomycin.

91. (new) The method of Claim 24, wherein said imidazoline ester is